



# IN CHRIST

## The Newsletter of Christ UMC

81 Garrison Br. Rd. 2, Weaverville, NC 28787  
October 2026

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### NOT ASHAMED!

Dear People of Christ,

The Apostle Paul wants the Christians in Rome to know right off what is on his heart and mind. So, he begins his letter with a powerful confession:

“For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it is the righteousness of God revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘The righteous shall live by faith’. “(Romans 1:16- 17)

Folks, these verses are the “theme” for the whole letter, which, by the way, is considered to be Paul’s most important epistle. Not only that, I think all of Paul’s life is summed up here. All his aspirations, desires, purposes and plans are anchored in his testimony...FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL!

To be ashamed of something is to disavow it, to deny it, to reject it. But it is more than that. It is also to shrink back from it, to minimize it, to distance oneself from it publicly.

Thus, to be ashamed of the Gospel is at best to embrace it timidly; for example, “This is my truth, but not necessarily someone else’s.” Or, “What business do I have in telling someone they must believe the gospel to be saved?”

At worst, it is to ignore our calling to share the good news of Christ. And even to be submissive to the world’s influence on us over that of Christ.

That certainly was not Paul. To these new Christians, many of whom were converted gentiles and Jews who came from very different religious experiences, and maybe still trying to sort out things, Paul wanted to boldly and bluntly make it clear. No doubt, no questions, this is what one’s faith must be about.

Paul “boasted” in Christ. He was compelled to tell others about Christ. Nothing timid about him at all. He knew Christ...and he knew the power of the Gospel. This is the good news God made possible for everybody. Indeed, it is the “power of God”.

The word we translate power is *Dunamis*. Folks, it is from this word that we get dynamite. It means explosive, dynamic—with all the ability to change.

What can dynamite do? Well, it can blast through giant boulders and mountains. It can radically change the landscape.

Now think about the Gospel. Think about the divine power that came into the world with Jesus. Think of all that came out of it--the transformation that swept across the world and down through the centuries...as people believed and were saved, as lives were transformed and impacted the world for good. It’s happening today...and at some time in life, it happened to us, too.

The power of the gospel changed our condition—from dead in sin to alive in Christ. From being lost to being a Child of God. From enmity with God to peace with God. And so much more.

This is why the letter to the Romans is so important to us. And especially, Romans 12. I have been wanting to do a series of messages on this chapter for a while. But now, it seems the timing is right. We have spent a lot of time with Paul in recent weeks—Philippians and Ephesians—which, I hope, has prepared the ground for our hearts to go deeper in understanding all that it means to follow Christ. And to be a member and active participant in his Body (Christ Church).

The world presents many challenges to us...as Christ- followers and as the church. We have been trying to work through these the last few years. And, of course, also striving to remain faithful to our calling while seeking God’s “new thing” for us.

People of Christ (Church)...please know I am grateful for all of you...and glad to “boast” about being your pastor. Never shall we be “ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!”

In the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the power of the Spirit.  
Pastor Mike

### WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER

We begin a new worship series this month. It is based on Romans 12 and I have titled it:  
“I AM NOT ASHAMED...!”

This chapter is all about how we live as Christ- followers...and how we serve and participate as members of the Body. I encourage you to read, study, and ponder what Paul teaches.

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| <b><u>October 4</u></b><br>“The Transformed Life!”<br>Romans 12:1-2<br>World Communion Day | <b><u>October 18</u></b><br>“Authentic Love!”<br>Romans 12:9-13        |
| <b><u>October 11</u></b><br>“Humble Service!”<br>Romans 12:3-8                             | <b><u>October 25</u></b><br>“Overcoming the World!”<br>Romans 12:14-21 |

### *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

*10/2-Kathryn Lee & Jack Morrow; 10/10-John “Jay” Miller;  
10/18-Brad Pippinger; 10/28-Peggy Gordon*

*10/9-The Miller’s; 10/30-The Gordon’s*

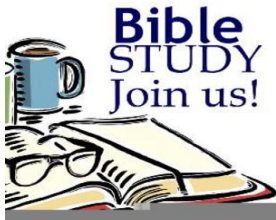
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**OCTOBER Fellowship Meal - Wednesday October 7, 6pm.**  
**Invite your family and friends! This time it’s a Potato bar & Salad.**

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Oct 3 - 8-10 - Hospitality Cleaning*  
*Oct 7 - 6p - First Wednesday Fellowship meal*  
*Oct 14-16 - Deliver Senior Meals*  
*Oct 18 - 4p - Charge Conf. at Mars Hill UMC*  
*Oct 24 - 8-10a - Hospitality Cleaning*  
*Oct 25 - Mission Team - Hayesville UMC (NC)*  
*Oct 31 - 8-10a - Hospitality Cleaning*  
*Oct 31 - Halloween*



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The Thursday night Grace Group has been on a sabbatical for about a year and is coming back together beginning **October 15**. This 10-week study is "Twelve Unlikely Heroes" by John MacArthur. (How God Commissioned Unexpected People in the Bible and What He Wants to Do with You. We will do a hybrid--- both zoom and in person at the Scarboro household. The books are \$11.00. Please let Terrie Scarboro know if you are interested in participating so books can be ordered.  
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## CHRIST CHURCH IN MISSION

We have hosted four mission work teams thus far this summer. They came from Virginia Beach UMC, Toledo, Ohio, (26 youth and 10 adults with Catholic Missions), Wilson UMC (NC), and more recently, a combined team from Davidson UMC (NC) and St. Paul UMC (Christiansburg, VA) ...and this week is Chester UMC, Chester, VA. Our next team is Hayesville UMC (NC) arriving on Sunday, October 25.

Many thanks for your support and prayers...and especially to those who are able to clean before and after the teams. What a wonderful way for our church to be "in mission."

**If you would like to help the Hospitality Team with cleaning on a Saturday morning, talk to Melinda Morrow or Terrie Scarboro. Thank you.**  
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Phase I of the CUMC Sanctuary Ceiling Repair Project will begin on Tues, Oct 6, 2026 at 8 am. Servpro will be the contractor performing mold mitigation and removing the ceiling drywall.

This phase should last 3-5 days, so **we will be worshiping in the Gathering Area on Sunday, Oct 11, at 11 am**. There may be further drying time needed after that due to the carpet cleaning and around the rafters. We will keep you posted on when we can meet in the sanctuary again. Phase II and III involve repairs to the steeple and roof as well as restoration and painting of the sanctuary ceiling.

## Call for all volunteers Sunday Oct 4!

**Sunday, Oct 4 after worship we will be moving everything out of the sanctuary to prep for Servpro starting work on Tues, Oct 6. Please stay and help move items if you are able.**

Continue to pray for this project, safety for all involved, God's timing for all contractor work, understanding from all groups using the church building, and God's provision to fund the work.

With grateful hearts,  
CUMC Leadership Team



## Joint Mission Project for October!!!

We will be joining Blue Ridge Vineyard Church's mission project for October. A collection box will be in the Narthex to collect items for the Clyde A. Erwin Middle School Resource Room.

Here is a list of the most needed items:

- individually packed snacks (high protein)
- easy to heat/grab meals (easy dinners, soup, beans, pasta, sauce)
- breakfast snack items (milk powder, cereal, granola bars)
- toiletries (especially toilet paper, paper towels, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- black leggings/sweatpants of all sizes
- warm socks
- children's toys (gently used/clean)

Thank you for your contributions and participation.

## CHRIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Our church is so blessed to have such strong leadership. These folks have faithfully served for a good while. Let us express our gratitude to them:

Laura Lever, chair  
Melinda Morrow, pastor- parish  
Terri Blankenship, lay leader and WNC Conference delegate  
Bruce Blankenship, maintenance  
Kate Thomas, at large

Terrie Scarboro, worship  
Lorraine Asman, treasurer  
Carol Young, finance  
Jake Morrow, at large

For 2027, we are looking to fill two areas: chair and pastor-parish. We also want to add a third area: missions coordinator.

So, I ask you, "WHERE IS CHRIST ASKING YOU TO SERVE?" Please be in prayer for our church...for what each of us can do to make our church stronger... and how our Lord is moving in our hearts. Then, let's talk.

Pastor Mike

## Keep in Touch:

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